Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1. (Canceled)

A method for providing error recovery in a data processing system which transfers message packets through communication adapters present on each end of a switched link and connected to respective data processing nodes, said method comprising the steps of:

Detecting corruption of a message packet transferred over said link;

Storing information concerning said corruption in a table within said adapter;

And interpreting said table from the node to which said adapter is connected.

Claim 2. (Amended)

A method of providing data integrity in a data processing system which transfers message packets from a plurality of nodes through communication adapters, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring adapter activity to detect corruption of any message packet to be transferred by any adapter;

providing an interrogatable internal storage area for each adapter for storage of pertinent error detection and recovery data in case of data corruption;

once an error that can potentially cause data corruption of any message packet is detected, temporarily making said adapter unavailable to any node(s) in said system until corrupted message packet is cleared and any device causing said corruption is thus recovered and operational.

Claim 3 The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of determining if data corruption of said message packet is transferred beyond said adapter to said system.

Claim 4 The method of claim 3, wherein said system is cleared of said data corruption by causing a system check stop.

Claim 5 The method of claim 4, wherein said system is then reinitialized and reset.

Claim 6 The method of claim 5, wherein said adapter is temporarily made available by fencing said adapter off from said system and to said associated nodes.

Claim 7 The method of claim 5, wherein said adapter is then reset.

Claim 8 The method of claim 7, wherein said adapter can differentiate between different levels of data corruption severity.

Claim 9 The method of claim 8, wherein said adapter is temporarily removed when said level of severity is deemed adequately high.

Claim 10 (Cancelled) The method of claim 9, wherein each adapter is provided with an internal memory.

Claim 11 (Cancelled) The method of claim 10, wherein information concerning corruption of message packets is then stored in a table within each adapter's internal memory.

Claim 12 (Cancelled) The method of claim 11, wherein said information to be stored also includes adapter state information.

Claim 13 (Cancelled) The method of claim 12, wherein said adapter is also reinitialized before it is started and made available to said system.

Claim 14 (Cancelled) The method of claim 13, wherein said communication adapters are provided on each end of a switched link that are connected to said plurality of respective data processing nodes.

Claim 15 (Cancelled) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of interrogating said adapter table from any node to which said adapter is connected to determine previous problems and errors logged.

Claim 16 (Cancelled) The method of claim 15, wherein said information is stored prior to resetting and reinitializing of said adapter.

Claim 17 (Amended)

A method of data recovery and error detection in a data processing system having a plurality of nodes comprising:

connecting one or more communication adapters to each end of any switched link such that said adapters can transfer message packets between said nodes;

providing an interrogatable internal storage area for each adapter for storage of pertinent error detection and recovery data in case of data corruption;

monitoring data transmission activity to detect data corruption of any of said message packets being transferred by said adapters; and

once data corruption is detected, temporarily removing said adapter availability from said nodes in said system until said adapter can be reset and reinitialized as to remove corrupted data and avoid such data to be transferred to other areas of said system; an

recovering any device causing said corruption such that it becomes operational.

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Claim 18 The method of claim 17, wherein said adapter is capable of receiving and processing a wide range of commands and instructions to effectuate a plurality of different message packet transfer modalities.

Claim 19 The method of claim 18, wherein information about said data corruption is provided in said internal storage area of said associated adapter prior to reinitializing of said adapter.

Claim 20 The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of determining of said data corruption was transferred to said system and thereafter check stopping and reinitializing said system if said corrupted data was transferred by any adapters to said system.

Claim 21 (Amended) A data processing system comprising:

a plurality of nodes in processing communication with one another through a plurality of communication adapters connected to each end of switched links associated with said nodes such that data packets can be transferred between said nodes;

said communication adapters having an interrogatable internal storage area for storing pertinent error detection and recovery data in case of data corruption;

said adapters capable of receiving and processing a wide range of commands and instructions to effectuate a plurality of different message packet transfer modalities;

means for detecting data corruption of packets and for temporarily making said adapters unavailable until information about said error can be stored in said adapters internal storage and said adapter can be reinitialized and any device causing said corruption is thus recovered and operational.